





# Alberta to hold Senate vote in Oct.: Senator

POLITICS An Alberta senator says the province will hold a vote to select nominees to the Senate this fall in conjunction with municipal elections.

Conservative Senator Bert Brown says the province will include the names of Senate nominee candidates on the municipal ballot on Oct. 18.

Brown is urging Albertans who want a shot at the Senate to start campaigning now. He says the three candidates who receive the most votes from Albertans will become senators in waiting.

In the past, Alberta has presented the prime minister with the list of nominees for consideration for when the province has a Senate vacancy. A spokesman for Premier Ed Stelmach says the government is considering a fall Senate vote.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## News on the Maye

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for news updates



Canada's Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir perform a lift they named The Goose, during their free dance in the ice dance competition yesterday at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games. The duo made history by winning Canada's first gold medal in ice dance. More coverage, pages 3, 10 & 11.

# Gliding to the gold

Moir, Virtue score Canada's first top finish in ice dance

# VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

Finally free of five years of pressure to Own The Podium in 2010, Canada found Olympic redemption yesterday as Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir delivered North America's first-ever gold medal in ice dancing.

Virtue, of London, Ont., and Moir, of Ilderton, Ont., performed a flawless free dance — an inspired romantic program to Gustav Mahler's Fifth Symphony — to open a substantial lead over second-place finishers Maryl Davis and Charlie White of the U.S.

"We love you, Vancouver," Moir, 22, shouted as the duo awaited their scores.

The results brought the crowd at Pacific Coliseum to their feet, along with a huge crowd packed into a community centre in Moir's home town.

Virtue and Moir punctuated the free program with a breathtaking lift known

as The Goose. It delivered the first figure skating gold for Canada since Jamie Sale and David Pelletier shared the pairs title eight years ago in Salt Lake City.

Yesterday's gold followed three days that yielded only a solo silver in speedskating, prompting the Canadian Olympic Committee to admit yesterday that Canada's bid for medals supremacy—the five-year, \$117-million Own The Podium program—had missed its mark.

Canada ended yesterday with 10 medals, including five gold and four silver, 14 shy of the U.S.

The gold came after the death of figure skater Joannie Rochette's mother, Therese, shook Canada's skating community to its core on the weekend. The 24-year-old from Ile-Dupas, Que., had a superb practice yesterday, showing the determination that's made her a strong medal contender.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Independent panel needed to decide MLA salaries: Pastoor

ANDREAS MORSE for Metro Edmonton

MOTION Who should decide how much MLAs make?

That's what Bridget Pastoor, Alberta Liberal MLA for Lethbridge-East, wants to know, and that's why she tabled a motion that calls for the creation of an independent committee to

review MLA pay and bene-

"I'm asking for an independent review of MLA salaries," Pastoor said yesterday before tabling her motion. "I think that openness, transparency and accountability is paramount in Alberta today."

Motion 501 urges the government to establish an independent commis-

"I think there is a perception out there that we're all overpaid."

Bridget Pastoor, Lethbridge-East MLA

sion to review the current salaries and benefits for MLAs and to report back on whether the current overall remuneration for members is fair and ade-

Regardless of what an independent commission finds, MLAs still have to vote on their own salaries because it is public money. Pastoor just doesn't necessarily believe MLAs should set their own salaries.

"I think there is a perception out there that we're all overpaid," she said. "Cabinet voted themselves a fairly large increase last year and because of public pressure, it was cut back. I think the public is interested in what we make and are they getting good value for the money."



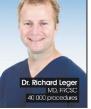
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### **News** in brief

SEX ASSAULT Police are seeking a man in connection with an al leged sexual assault from last summer. A 27-year-old Edmonton woman was allegedly assaulted in her own home during a house party on July 18 by one of her quests. The suspect, known as "Dan," is described as

Caucasian and 30 years old. He stands six-footone, with curly brown shoulderlength hair, long sideburns,



"Dan" numerous tattoos and a slim build. Anyone with information

is asked to call the complaints line at 780-423-4567 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

METRO EDMONTON

# **EdmontonTweets**

@BriceDavidson #yeg. Finally went to the renovated Muttart Conserva-

tory. Dare I say improvement on the original. Well done. **@adampatterson** when did we move to London? #fog

@Angelharlev Thanks to a collision on the James Mac I can't get downtown and totally stuck in traffic #yeg #itmustbemonday

# metrenews.ca WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Former Canadian hostage Amanda Lindhout shows sympathy for her captors in first speech since she was freed at metronews.ca/

# 'Peg pups up for adoption

Couple drives animals to EHS from overcrowded facility

MONIQUE MASSIAH



ty yesterday. Humane Society volunteer Les Raubenheimer said he brought the puppies over "to give them a chance."

Raubenheimer and his wife, Sandy, drove in a Humane Society-funded vehicle with fuel donated by Lexus of Edmonton to Winnipeg to retrieve the animals from an over-crowded facility.

"A lot of people put in a lot of effort," Sandy said.

She and her husband and family have a farm, which is home to another 30 animals that needed to be taken care of while they were gone.

"It was an opportunity, we saw it and we took it. It really turned out to be fantastic for these animals," she said. "We've enjoyed



Edmonton Humane Society volunteer Sandy Raubenheimer cuddles Chloe, one of 22 newly arrived puppies from Winnipeg.

every minute of it."

They heard of the puppies' plight during a meeting with Lexus in Edmon-

ton, where Sandy works. The Winnipeg Humane Society simply did not have enough space for the

"It was an opportunity, we saw it and we took it. It really turned out to be fantastic for these animals."

Sandy Raubenheimer, Edmonton Humane Society volunteer

animals.

"I guess they just have an abundance of dogs. she said. "The Edmonton Humane Society has the ability to find homes for them, mostly because the people of Edmonton really have big hearts."

In the past, puppy adoption numbers have gone down in Winnipeg, but Edmonton Humane Society spokeswoman Shawna Randolph said they help whenever they can.

In the end, the puppies travelled over 1,700 kilometres.

"This is a very happy ending," said Randolph.



# Author delights students on Literacy

MONIQUE MASSIAH

Whispered ooh's and ahh's filled the gym of Belmont Elementary School yesterday, as author Barbara Reid's tales entertained students dur-

ing the second annual Literacy Day. "Reading can make your imagination grow," said

# "Reading can make your imagination grow."

Carter Biggam, Belmont student

Carter Biggam, a Belmont student who was wowed by the imagination and creativity of the Canadian author. "It could help you later on if someone asked you to write a book for them.'

He and about 300 other students enjoyed learning about aspects of reading and writing like glyphs (mathematical literacy), scrapbooking, and story-telling along with Reid during the fun-filled day.

Through a partnership, Horse Hill Elementary principal Debbie Gawlick and Belmont Dennis Kuchta aimed to show students that they can develop careers out of their writing skills.

In the future, Kuchta hopes that the students get excited about what they are writing.

"Our school focus is literacy," said Kuchta. "It's a good opportunity for them to see that writing is important." m.metrenews.ca



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A Merritt, B.C., father has been found not criminally responsible for the first-degree murders of his daughter and two sons in their home in April 2008. Forty-one-year-old Allan Schoenborn's lawyer maintained his client suffered from a mental disorder when he killed 10-year-old Kaitlynne with a cleaver and then suffocated eight-year-old Max and five-year-old Cordon. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Canada



# Hackers use Games to lure victims

Cyber crooks and hackers have used interest in the 2010 Vancouver Olympics as bait to cause havoc and in some cases rip off unsuspecting web surfers, says a U.S. securi ty expert. The warning comes days after an infected web video of the death of Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili made the rounds on the Internet. Don Gray, of U.S.based Solutionary, said the Games have become a playground for hackers primarily because of the overwhelming use of social media.

# Canada waves white flag | Opposition blasts

COC admits it can't catch U.S. in Olympic medal race

# VANCOUVER **2010 Games**

### Canada won't own the podium at the Vancouver . Games after all.

With seven days of competition remaining, the Canadian Olympic Com-Canadian Olympic mittee raised the white flag yesterday on the host team's goal of finishing first overall in the medal

"We are going to be short of our goal," CEO Chris Rudge said at the team's daily news briefing.

As of last night Canada had ten medals (5-4-1), good for fifth place far behind the U.S. at 25. Germany was second with 21, followed by Norway with 14 and Russia with 11.



Chris Rudge, CEO of the Canadian Olympic Committee, said Canada is raising the white flag. Rudge acknowledged yesterday it's unrealistic to believe Canada can catch up to the U.S.

'We'd be living in a fool's paradise if we said we were going to catch the Americans and win," Rudge said. "We're not throwing in the towel. You never do that

when you are in the middle of a fight, but it's difficult. They are way out ahead at this point and it would be unrealistic to state that we are going to catch them."

# No. 2 OK for Buzz

Canada's Olympic team, take note: The second man to walk on the moon says you don't always need to be first to be successful. Buzz Aldrin. one of many celebrities who has come to Vancouver to take in the Olympics, says too much emphasis is placed on being No. 1.

It was like an elephant left the room when Rudge acknowledged Canada wasn't going to finish first at these Games. That atmosphere contrasted starkly with the previous day's tense briefing when defensive Canadian officials maintained Canada could still finish first over-THE CANADIAN PRESS

# rights group plan

**POLITICS** The federal government is trying to restore order at a troubled rights agency by appointing a former Quebec politician and respected international activist as its new head

The opposition isn't buy-

Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon has nominated Gerard Latulippe, a former Quebec Liberal who also ran for the Canadian Alliance federally in 2000, to take over at Lawrence tumultuous Cannon

Rights and Democracy agency.
"I fully believe that Mr.

Latulippe is the ideal candidate to return Rights and Democracy to the promo-tion of Canadian values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law," Cannon said.

The nomination hit politiroadblocks hours. Cannon must consult the opposition parties on Latulippe's appointment. He said he hopes the new appointee can be in place by mid-March.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff dismissed the government's move, saying it had turned the agency upside down by stacking the

board with conservative directors and now wants to compound the problem.

"Our view is that Conservative government started this process of chaos appointing a board of governors that basically waged war on the organiza-

tion it was charged to look after," he said.

Paul Dewar of the NDP said his party won't support the nomination.

"Until such time as we've been able to have an inquiry at the foreign affairs committee about what's happening at Rights and Democracy, it's premature to support any nomination," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# **News** in brief

HAITI The federal government will likely soon announce that the Canadian death toll in Haiti has more than doubled. At least 34 Canadians are confirmed dead and another 50 are missing after the magnitude-7.0 earthquake struck Jan. 12. Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said officials will soon have to acknowledge that many of the missing are, in fact, dead. THE CANADIAN PRESS



A shadow may be cast on Canada's G8 summit hosting after report blasts "systemic erosion" of gende

# Grit senators blast Tories on RCMP

CRIME Liberal members of a disbanded Senate committee have taken the unusual step of releasing a position paper while Parliament is shut down, recommending sweeping changes to the embattled RCMP.

Rebuilding the national police force "makes far more sense than trying to stuff more people in Canada's already overstuffed jails," says the paper, re-leased yesterday by six Liberals who were members of the Senate's security and defence committee in the previous Parliament.

The document, "Toward a Red Serge Revival," says any reputable criminologist knows good crime preven-

# "The RCMP transformation seems to lack any momentum."

Senator Colin Kenny

tion is far more effective than the Tory plan to send more people to prison for longer stretches.

The paper acknowledges there's an RCMP reform process underway, but the senators have little faith in that process. They warn that if it doesn't work, Canadians are in for more "horror stories" about the decline of what they call a national treasure.

The RCMP transforma-

mentum," Senator Colin Kenny aid in an interview.

"One of the biggest

things it's lacking is some signal from the government for oversight. The other thing it's lacking is funding."

Scandal, controversy and morale issues have plagued the iconic national police force in recent years. It has been the subject of several studies and inquiries, but relatively few changes have been implemented.

Senator Conservative Pamela Wallin called the Liberal report "a straight-up political move for Senator Kenny to try and grab the spotlight." THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Approvals of more than 6,000 stimulus projects to boost jobs

**ECONOMY** The federal government says it has finished deciding who gets what under key parts of its massive stimulus program in a tidal wave of approvals that should propel a spring job surge. Officials at Infrastruc-

ture Canada say more than 6,000 stimulus projects have been approved in their department in the past year, and \$9.4 billion

has been committed to stimulus spending by their department alone. That jumps to \$27 billion including funding from other levels of government.

The rush of approvals means there will likely be a huge crush of work kicking into high gear this spring and summer, even as the economic recovery takes hold.

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# Comment & Views

EDITOR: MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

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**Comment** 

# PM can't compare to bully Brown



ritish Prime Minister Gordon Brown treated staff so harshly, it is revealed, that some of them contacted the National Bullying Helpline for assistance in dealing with him.

The revelation follows publication of a book revealing all sorts of tantrums by the prime minister — grabbing staffers by the lapels, pulling them out of chairs, punching walls. And we all thought Brown was a staid economist, duller than dishwater.

Now that the news is out, Brown's spinners, while denying some of the allegations, are trying to work the story in their favour. These outbursts show a tough-minded leader at work, his PR men say, so

dedicated to solving the nation's problems that he is sometimes overcome by emotion.

The tactic — the humanizing of a robotic leader — might even work. Or the British might buy the take of opposition Conservatives — this shows Brown is an unstable bully unfit for high office.

The revelations from across the pond will likely be greeted with some relief in the office of Stephen Harper, a prime minister painted as somewhat of a bully himself. It's always

comforting to have the focus moved to others, to have your own alleged faults be seen as commonplace.

Interviews with many who have worked in the Harper PMO reveal that he can be cold and severe and occasionally blow a gasket. But if the stories about Brown are true, it should be said that our prime minister isn't even in the same league. No staffers running to bully hotlines here.

Nor have we seen our PM get so irate that, à la Jean Chrétien in 1996, he grabs

a protester by the throat and hurls him to the ground. Nor does he appear to have the short fuse of a Brian Mulroney, who would go into frequent rages, or John Diefenbaker, who was a towering inferno of megalomania.

The issue with Harper is not whether he bullies staff. It's whether he bullies the system. It's whether his smearing of opponents, his inclination toward censorship and secrecy, his overcentralizing of powers have downgraded democracy to an unprecedented degree.

The latest allegation suggests that his operatives have violated access to information regulations by delaying or blocking the release of potentially embarssing government documents. Before this, we saw stories of how his political team crushed a democratic challenge to the nomination of incumbent MP Rob Anders in Calgary. Before this, literally dozens of other such examples.

Lawrence Martin is a journalist and author of 10 books who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

Views

# Treat others as you would like to be treated



Remember when working out relationship woes involved visiting a therapist, who taught you stuff like, "I hear you saying this," or "When you shout at me it makes me feel sad."

So why is it when most of us show up at the returns counter or put a phone to our ears, with a customer care rep on the other end and a kid's cellphone bill in our hands, we revert to our first therapy visit — but with more extreme anger management issues.

It's not like we haven't been set up. Who came up with the idea that local or weekday calls should cost more than long distance? Who invented a voice recognition system that can't recognize my voice?

All of this nonsense created by the sadistic technology warlords has produced a new underclass of abused people — customer care reps. One recently confided to me.

to me.
"I don't care if this call is being taped. When people

yell at me, I go home and bawl my eyes out. I don't set policy but I can help people with their problems. However, if they're rude out of the gate, I'm not going to." Recently, I returned a de-

Recently, I returned a defective camera battery. Initially, the young female clerk told me, "Sorry, it's after 30 days..."

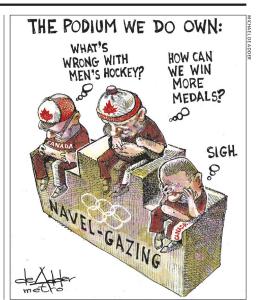
Instead of yelling, I sighed about my daughter's disappointment in not being able to photograph a girls' weekend. Suddenly, I was her mom. Sooner than you can say, "Can I have the keys to the car" she waived that 30-day policy.

Weeks later I had a similar

Weeks later I had a similar encounter. Set to do battle over a faulty clothes dryer, I was thrown off balance by a pleasant sounding clerk. Instead of yelling, I beseeched her, "Just listen to my story." Soon, she was imagining me as her next door neighbour and my bank account was \$200 richer.

Which brings me to my conclusion — treat people like humans and they'll do the same back. And if I forget, I'll remember these words, "When you charge me 35 cents a minute for a local call, it makes me feel

Georgie Binks is a Toronto freelance writer who writes about gender and relationships; georgiebinks@rogers.com



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Paris-to-London train breaks down

Eurostar has suffered yet another embarrassment after one of its trains broke down in southern England late last night, briefly stranding more than 700 people. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# World



# Merkel's party rocked by scandal German Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative party is facing allegations

German Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative party is facing allegations that lobbyists were offered the chance to buy face time with a key state governor. Hendrik Wuest, the Christian Democratic Union's party manager in North-Rhine Westfalia, announced his resignation yesterday, taking responsibility for the scandal.

# Cheney in hospital with chest pains

6

WASHINGTON An aide to Dick Cheney says the former U.S. vice-president is in George Washington Hospital after experiencing chest pains.

Cheney's assistant, Peter Long, said in a statement last night that the 69-yearold Cheney was resting comfortably and his doctors were evaluating the situation. Cheney has a history of heart problems and uses a pace-maker. In 2008, doctors restored a normal rhythm to his heart with an electric shock. It was the second time in less than a year that Chenev had experienced and been treated for an atrial fibrillation. Cheney has had four heart attacks, starting when he was 37. He has had quadruple bypass surgery and two artery-clearing angioplasties.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Mistaken NATO airstrike kills civilians

NATO jets mistakenly killed at least 21 people in central Afghanistan, officials said yesterday, the deadliest attack on civilians in six months. The strike prompted a sharp rebuke from the Afghan government as it struggles to win public backing for a major military offensive against the Taliban in the south.

Also yesterday, a suicide bomber detonated explosives at a community meeting in eastern Afghanistan, killing 15 civilians — including a prominent tribal leader widely criticized for failing to prevent Osama bin Laden's escape at Tora Bora after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The civilian deaths oc-

curred as 15,000 NATO, U.S. and Afghan soldiers were in their 10th day of fighting insurgents in the southern town of Marjah. The mission is to rout the Taliban, set up a local government and rush in aid to win public support.

The alliance said its planes fired on what was thought to be a group of insurgents in Uruzgan province on their way to attack NATO and Afghan forces. Interior Ministry spokesman Zemeri Bashary said the airstrike hit three minibuses, which were travelling on a major road.

Although the airstrike was not related to the Marjah offensive, civilian casualties undermine NATO's goal of turning back the Taliban and winning the confidence of the Afghan people — one of the main objectives of the southern operation.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has repeatedly called on NATO to do more to protect civilians during stepped-up military operations, and the Afghan cabinet strongly condemned the airstrike.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Nicolas Sarkozy urges Mideast peace talks, warning of potentia "catastrophe" in the region. Scan this code for the story.

# Arizona What up, dog?



This photo released by Guinness World Records shows Giant George, a Great Dane from Tucson, Ariz., who stands three feet, seven inches tall from paw to shoulder, making him the world's tallest dog. Sitting under Giant George is owner David Nasser.

# DREAMS, CURIOSITY, IDEAS – THE CREATIVE ELEMENTS OF INNOVATION Astronaut, scientist, physician, photographer: Dr. Roberta Bondar's diverse career has always followed her passion. Join us for an evening of insights and inspiration. Date: Thursday, March 18 6:30 pm: Reception with light

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# Homeless say they are being evicted

PORT-AU-PRINCE Homeless victims of Haiti's earth-quake said yesterday that police are halting deliveries of food and water to try to force them to leave their camp on the grounds of the prime minister's office.

Police have padlocked gates to the camp where about 2,500 homeless people live under bed sheets propped on sticks on the sloping hill leading to the office. Stinking garbage with swarms of flies is piling up and portable latrines are filled, camp residents complained.

Witnesses said police beat 22-year-old Dalida Jeanty in the morning after she picked up a broom to sweep around her tent.

# **Haiti** Crisis

"They called her and she did not come so they beat her," said her cousin, Alix Jeanty.

A police officer guarding the gate refused to give his name or to comment on the alleged beating or on accusations they have been turning away trucks carrying food and water for the past 10 days. Calls to the information ministry yesterday were unanswered.

"We've been here for a month and we were being treated well, but for the past two weeks we have been mistreated," said Markinson Midey, a 22year-old student. "Anytime they bring food or water, the police make the trucks leave."

He and other residents said they believe the government wants to make the camp conditions so bad that people will be forced to leave, even though they have nowhere to go.

Many government buildings were damaged in the Jan. 12 quake and Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive is working out of the same office as President Rene Preval at a temporary government location set up in the headquarters of the judicial police, near the airport.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# **News** in brief

**DRUGS** Germany's oldest drug dealer is to go on trial today in the city of Wuppertal. The 85year-old grandmother from the western city of Solingen has admitted to trafficking heroin in 2008 that she had purchased in the Netherlands, before passing on the drug route to her grandson in 2009. One of her motives had been to support her son, who had been a drug addict. According to her lawyer, she wanted to prevent him from committing crimes to pay for his addiction.

METRO WORLD NEWS

IRAN Airlines not referring to the waterway between Iran and the Arabian peninsula as the Persian Gulf will be banned from Iranian airspace, the transport minister said yesterday. The warning was directed specifically toward the airlines of neighbouring Gulf Arab countries who have a history of referring to the body of water as the "Arabian Gulf."

missing on Madeira has jumped to 32, authorities said, after weekend landslides crashed down the Portuguese

vacation island's steep slopes, smashing into homes and leaving 42 people confirmed dead. The missing may never be found because they were most likely swept out to sea, officials said vesterday. Rescue teams were using sniffer dogs to scour debris and dug cars out of mounds of sludge to see if anyone was inside. The number of missing was raised from four earlier in the day after local people contacted authorities, said Conceicao Estudante, head of tourism and transport.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The accused are being tried for their involvement in a fire triggered by illegal fireworks at China's main TV network. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# world

# New U.S. health plan

# Obama introduces \$1-trillion proposal

U.S. President Barack Obama made a last-ditch effort yesterday to save his signature issue — an overhaul of the U.S. health-care system putting forward a nearly \$1-trillion, 10-year compromise plan.

Obama, who deferred to Congress on the specifics for more than a year, has finally put forward a detailed plan of his own. Posted yesterday on the White House website, the plan would provide coverage to more than 31 million uninsured Americans, without adding to the federal deficit.

The president's plan includes a provision to allow the government to deny or roll back egregious increasObama's plan

- Will provide more than 31 million people with coverage.
- Federal subsidies would help people pay premiums.
   Regulator would create a competitive marketplace for small businesses and people buying their own coverage.

es that infuriate consumers, an idea bound to resonate with Americans fed up with insurance companies. It also puts Republican legislators who oppose the new plan at risk of appearing to favour big business over the constituents who will be voting in November's congressional elections.

It would require most Americans to carry health insurance coverage, with federal subsidies to help many afford the premiums. Insurance companies would be barred from denying coverage to people with medical problems.

In the plan, regulators would create a competitive marketplace for small businesses and people buying their own coverage.

Estimated to cost about \$1 trillion over 10 years, the plan would be paid for by a mix of tax increases, new fees on health-care industries and cost-cutting in an existing government health-care program for the alderly.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# **News** in brief

NEW YORK A New York City police officer accused of sodomizing a drug suspect in a subway station was acquitted yesterday, along with two other officers who had been accused of covering it up. Officer Richard Kernhad faced as many as 25 years in prison if convicted of aggravated sexual abuse. Officers Andrew Morales and Alex Cruz could have faced up to four years in prison on charges of hindering prosecution. Michael Mineo claimed Kern violated him with a police baton after he ran from officers inside a Brooklyn subway station in 2008. Mineo filed a \$440-million US lawsuit against the city. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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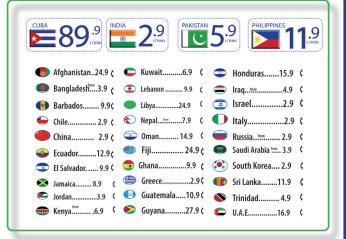
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Lloyds Banking Group said yesterday that chief executive Eric Daniels has turned down his 2.3-million pound (\$3.6-million US) bonus for 2009, becoming the fourth top U.K. banking executive to refuse his bonus. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### POLLAR GAS OIL TSX Business US \$80.16 US **95.91**¢ US \$4.895 11,634.75 US 0.20¢ US **14.9**¢ US 35¢ 74.54

# Upgrader set to work in April

Inc.'s fire-damaged oilsands upgrader is expected to be back in service in early April, squeezing production from Canada's biggest energy company for the next few months.

A fire broke out two

weeks ago at Suncor's U1 upgrader, which processes heavy crude from its oilsands operations north of Fort McMurray into a higher quality type of oil refineries can more easily handle.

Calgary-based

said yesterday it has finished assessing the damage. Insurance will likely not play a significant role in mitigating losses from the incident. The company is not disclosing how much the repairs are expected to THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Singapore Budget boost



Tourists take photos of the financial district in Singapore yesterday. Singapore's 2010 budget will boost funding for job training and raise company fees on foreign workers in a bid to increase productivity and fuel growth up 6.5 per cent this year.

# **Toyota in hot seat** with U.S. Congress

Facing tough questions in the U.S. Congress, Toyota Motor Corp. said yesterday that federal prosecutors have launched a criminal investigation into the company's safety problems and the U.S. Securities and **Exchange Commission was** probing what the automaker told investors.

Lawmakers pledged to ask executives about internal documents showing that Toyota visited with regulators who "laughed and rolled their eyes in disbelief" over safety claims.

The developments created new challenges for Toyota officials scheduled to testify at hearings today and tomorow amid concerns that the company and federal regulators failed to take safety problems seriously.

# Subpoena

It wasn't immediately clear what U.S. laws Toyota might have broken. A subpoena would specify why prosecutors sought company documents, but Toyota would not comment.

Congressional investigators are reviewing the Japanese automaker's recall of 8.5 million vehicles since fall to deal with safety problems involving gas pedals, floor mats and brakes

In a new filing with the SEC, Toyota said it received the grand jury request from the Southern District of New York on Feb. 8 and got the SEC requests Friday.

The investigations raised the possibility of hefty fines

for the automaker or possible indictments against executives in the United States or even in Japan.

"As a general matter, prosecutors will look at whether individuals may have violated the law and bring charges against them as individuals, rather than seeking to build a case against the corporation itself," said Robert Mintz, who leads the government investigations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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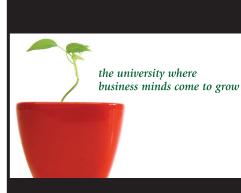
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business 9

**Your Money** 

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

# Protect yourself from rising rates

Interest biggest threat to homeowners, buyers



un, run for vour life! Straight to the bank. Quick, get that mortgage pre-approval.

Dash to the nearest real estate office. Buy. Buy. Buy. Get into the housing market while the getting is good — and possible.

Whoa! Wait just one minute.

Last week, federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty put the squeeze on prospective homebuyers with new rules designed to let some air out of the real estate market. Of course, making it more difficult to qualify for a

mortgage could cause a mini-stampede between now and April 19 when

the rules come into effect. After that date mortgage appli-

"Last week, federal have meet the Finance Minister standards of a five- Jim Flaherty put year fixed rate the squeeze on prospective mortgage, if homebuyers with they are new rules designed insurance, applying for a low- to let some air out er variable rate. of the real estate market." means,

\$250,000 mortgage, you must qualify for roughly \$250 more in monthly payments.

That

Nonetheless, don't rush off in a panic to buy before April 19. Instead armour yourself against the biggest threat to homeowners and buyers ing interest rates. Here's how to do it:

1 Aim for a down payment of 20 per cent or more. You won't have to pay for mortgage saving at least \$5,000 on a \$250,000 mortgage. You'll also

have a smaller balance exposed to future higher rates.

2Go for as short an amortization as possible. Twenty-five years was the standard until 2006. Now 35 years is



 Homeowners and buyers shouldn't worry about new rules making mortgages harder to get. Job one is protecting yourself against rising interest rates.

have applied for in order to get a price reduction or make a buy-now-pay-later purchase. And reduce or eliminate line of credit limits. This will improve your credit score making it easier to qualify under the new rules.

Alison Griffiths is a financial journalist, author and host of Maxed Out on the W Network. Write to her at alison@alisongriffiths.ca.

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- reported monthly and paid to your account on June 30th and December 31st each year. We reserve the right to extend or cancel the offer at any time

10 sports



Austria won the gold medal in the Olympic team ski jump yesterday. Led by 20-year-old Gregor Schlierenzauer's 146.5-metre jump, Austria defended its title from the 2006 Turin Games with 1,107.9 points. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# ncouver Games

# **TVHighlights**

# 10 a.m.: Women's

**curling** Canada vs. Britain (Sportsnet).

**3:15 p.m.: Men's curling** China vs. Canada (TSN). 5:30 p.m.: Men's hockey Canada vs. Germany (CTV).

8 p.m.: Women's curling Canada vs. Russia (Sportsnet).

TIMES MAY CHANGE

# VANCOUVER GAMES Medal**Count**

NATION			т	TOTAL			
U.S.	7	8	10	25			
Germany	7	9	5	21			
Norway	6	3	5	14			
Canada	5	4	1	10			
Switzerland	5	0	2	7			
South Korea	4	4	1	9			
Austria	3	3	3	9			
Sweden	3	2	2	7			
China	3	1	1	5			
Netherlands	3	1	1	5			
Russia	2	3	6	11			
France	2	2	4	8			
Slovakia	1	1	1	3			
Czech Republic	1	0	2	3			
Δustralia	1	1	0				

# On the web (#

- Up-to-date medal standings and results Complete day-by-day
- Metro-Blenz News Squad on-the-ground blog

event schedule

Visit metronews.ca for more Games coverage.

# 'Sloppy' Martin beats U.S. to keep record perfect

CURLING The "Michael Jordan of curling" didn't bring his A or even his B game to the Olympics yesterday but Kevin Martin's Canadian rink was still good enough to easily defeat the United States to run its record to 8-0.

Canada gave up a rare steal in the first end and finally took control in the fourth end but at one point Martin was curling a paltry 38 per cent efficiency while third John Morris was even worse off at 13 per cent.

"Ooh, lucky number 13," chuckled Morris after Canada rebounded to beat John Shuster's team 7-2.

"Yeah, a little sloppy. I don't think it was our best



• Canada's Cheryl Bernard clinched a spot in the women's curling playoff round with a 6-2 pounding of defending Olympic gold medallist Anette Norberg of Sweden vesterday. With another round-robin victory, Bernard can clinch the No. 1 seed in the tournament.

first five ends but when you have round-robin first place wrapped up at this stage, I think that's sometimes expected.

> game, Shuster heaped maybe ultimate praise c. anointing him Michael of praise on Martin, curling". Martin was also

After

laughing at his team's first-half effort but admitted wrapping up first place going into Thursday's semifinals took away from the team's focus.

"We came out with a little bit of complacency or a lack of focus after yesterday's big win," said Martin.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Canadian forward Meghan Agosta celebrates after scoring past Finnish defenceman Heidi Pelttari and goalie Noora Raty yesterday in Vancouver. Canada won 5-0 to reach the gold medal game.

# Canada vs. U.S. a go for final

# No upsets on road to gold medal game

JEFF HODSON

Canada's women's hockey team will take on the U.S. in a rematch of the 1998 and 2002 gold medal games on Thursday after both countries cruised to easy victories yesterday at Canada Hockey Place.

Canada beat Finland 5-0 yesterday evening, while the U.S. took a measure of revenge on Sweden - the team that upset them in the semifinals in Turin in 2006 — trouncing them 9-1.

Canada is the defending champion from Salt Lake City and Turin and it is the third time that the two teams have met in the final since women's hockey was included in the Olympics in 1998.

"It's something that peo-ple love to watch and we love to play in," said Canadian forward Jayna Hefford, of the upcoming bat-

tle with the Americans.
"It's going to be a battle all night ... (People are) goto see the best women's teams that have ever been on the ice," she predicted.

# "It's going to be a battle all night."

Jayna Hefford, Team Canada

night, Canada opened the scoring about five minutes into the first period against Finland when Cherie Piper slammed home a backhand feed in the slot from Meghan Agosta. Haley Irwin added a second later in the period when she poked in a loose puck past Finland goalie Noora Raty.

The Finnish goaltender was outstanding, stopping 45 of the 50 shots she faced and keeping the Finns in the contest until about the 17 minute mark of the second period, when Agosta, the trailer on a three-on-two with Hefford and Tessa Bon-homme, snagged the rebound and put the puck top shelf.

Irwin added her second goal of the game in the third, banking a backhand off Raty's pad as the goaltender struggled to get back in position. Caroline Ouellette added the fifth

third period.

Ski jump gold for Austria

On the uphill side of the ice, Canadian goalie Shannon Szabados was perfect, stopping 11 shots for the shutout.

At a press conference following his team's drubbing of Sweden, U.S. head coach Mark Johnson — a member of the American's 1980 miracle on ice team (yesterday was the 30th anniversary of that U.S. gold medal win over the Soviets) — said he was proud of the strides his team had made in the months leading up to the Games.

"The big thing for the group is to make sure we enjoy the next couple of days," Johnson said. "Mentally, try and get yourself prepared to play the best hockey that you've ever played."

Sweden's coach Peter Elander, who has coached against Canada and the U.S. this tournament, compared both teams.

"The U.S.A. play with a little more speed, play quicker." Elander said. "Canada is stronger. It's hard to play against them both, but it's fun to watch them play.'





### No medal for Canada in men's cross-country sprint

Canada just missed the podium in the men's cross-country sprint at the Winter Olympics yesterday as Alex Harvey of St-Ferreol-les-Neiges, Que., and Devon Kershaw of Sudbury, finished fourth. It is the best-ever Olympic cross-country result for Canadian men. THE CANADIAN PRESS





# **Vancouver Games**



Team Canada's goaltender Roberto Luongo takes a break during yesterday's practice.

# Luongo gets nod in do-or-die game

Team Canada is ready to sink or swim at the Olympics with Roberto Luongo in goal.

Coach Mike Babcock tabbed the Vancouver Canucks goaltender yesterday to take over from struggling veteran Martin Brodeur for as long as Canada can go at the 2010 Games.

It starts with a must-win game against Germany tonight. A victory would put Canada into a quarterfinal tomorrow against powerful Russia.

"That's our plan — he has an opportunity here and he has to play well," said Babcock.

Luongo said he was told of the change after Canada was beaten 5-3 by the United States in their final preliminary round game Sunday night, when Brodeur allowed four goals on 22 shots while American goalie Ryan Miller was

# Yzerman believes

• Steve Yzerman still believes in the 23 players representing Team Canada. The executive director of the men's Olympic hockey team thinks Canada has improved in each of its games and remains hopeful the trend will continue. Yzerman noted that he isn't surprised with the position the team finds itself in. The two-time Olympian says Canadian teams tend to start slowly at international hockey tournaments. He also said the quality of competition is much improved.

making 42 saves at the other end.

That gave the U.S. a bye into the quarter-finals, while Canada must first play its elimination game against Germany, a tight-checking underdog

checking underdog.
Luongo started Canada's first game of the Olympics, making 15 saves for the shutout in an easy 8-0 win over Norway, but then ceded the net to Brodeur, the NHL's all-time leader in wins and shutouts, for the next two games.

"It's going to be fun to play in front of the fans again," said Luongo. "It was a great experience in my first outing

my first outing.

"I've played at world championships and world juniors and some playoffs, but this I'm really excited about," the Montreal native said. He will also be playing in the Canucks' home rink — GM Place, which was renamed Canada Hockey Place for the Games

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Rochette's tragedy not unique



oannie Rochette must be emotionally drained in the wake of her mother Therese's death. The tragic news comes on the eve of the most important competition of the young skater's life.

But Rochette should take heart because she is not alone. The country mourns with her and supports her agonizing decision to leave the Olympic city or remain to take part in the Games.

There is more than one precedent in Canadian history for this kind of occurrence at a critical time. Perhaps Rochette can draw some comfort and strength from those who have gone before her.

In 1992, one week before the Barcelona Olympics, medal-favoured synchronized swimmer Sylvie Frechette endured the suicide of her fiancé. Frechette



Canada's Joannie Rochette takes a break during figure skating practice vesterday.

chose to compete at the Games and won gold.

Just two days prior to the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, hockey player Danielle Goyette's father, Henri-Paul, died from complications associated with Alzheimer's disease. In her first game just three days later, Goyette scored three goals and added an assist as Canada began the tournament with a victory against Japan. The Canadians went on to win a silver medal.

Finally, and most recently, there is the case of swimmer Brent Hayden. The week before he competed at the world champi-

onships in Melbourne, his grandfather Perry Anderson died of old age in British Columbia.

"I visited him on his death bed before I left for Australia and promised I'd win the gold medal for him," Hayden recalled in Whistler.

"It was the last thing I thought about as I got up on the blocks and began my swim. I just remembered the promise I made him and didn't want to let him down. I didn't care how much it hurt I was going to deliver on my promise to him."

It ended up that Hayden made good by winning gold in the 100-metre freestyle and was true to his word.

It is a tragic set of circumstances and for Rochette, the timing could not be worse. But she has to know that there is a way to survive this.

She must have faith that she is not alone and that her mother is so very proud of her as she readies for her time on the great stage of the Olympic Games.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

# Did hype hinder hopes of owning podium?

concern How Canada's athletes managed the adrenalin rush of performing in front of their home fans will come under close scrutiny when the dust settles on the Vancouver Olympics.

In the wake of yester-

day's concession that Canada will likely not reach its goal of winning more medals than any other country, the question was asked if athletes who failed to convert their podium potential were so stimulated by the unprecedented support in front of them that they over-reached.

The atmosphere at sport venues has been described as "unbelievable" and "over the top" by athletes, coaches and officials.

# Ice dancers put on a brother-sister act

FIGURE SKATING Israeli ice dancer Roman Zaretsky knows exactly what people are thinking when they see him and his sister skating hand-in-hand or doing a seductive tango.

Double ick.

"The romance part, it's hard to show because it's programmed in your head this is your sister," he said. "So it's hard to act."

Anyone with a brother or sister knows there are times you don't even want to talk to them, let alone gaze into their eyes longingly and convince people you mean it.

For four of the 23 ice dance teams at the Vancouver Olympics, however, there's no choice.

Joining the Zaretskys — Roman and Alexandra — in last night's free dance are Britain's Sinead and John Kerr; Japan's Cathy and Chris Reed; and Germany's Christina and William Beier.

Brother-sister acts are nothing new in figure skating. French ice dancers Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay added the silver medal at the 1992 Albertville Games to the world title they had won a year earlier. American siblings Kitty and Peter Carruthers were silver medallists in pairs at the 1984 Olympics.

But when most fans think of pairs or dance, they like to imagine blissful love stories like 2002 Canadian pairs gold medallists Jamie Sale and David Pelletier or recent Vancouver pairs gold medallists Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo.

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Iverson leaves team to be with ill daughter

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Philadelphia 76ers guard Allen Iverson has left the team and is out indefinitely to spend time with his ill daughter. Iverson will miss at least the remaining three games of Philadelphia's road trip. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# ports



# Tomlinson cut by Chargers

LaDainian Tomlinson, left, was released yesterday by the San Diego Chargers, ending a brilliant nine-year run in which he became one of the NFL's greatest running backs. The move had been expected for some time. Tomlinson, who turned 30 last summer, was injured early in the 2009 season and finished with 730 yards on 223 carries for an average of 3.3 yards per carry, all career lows. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

### **Sports** in brief

DELGADO Free-agent slugger Carlos Delgado says his latest hip surgery went well and he is looking forward to getting back onto the field. Delgado is quoted as saying in yesterday's edition of El Nuevo Dia newspaper that he wants to be "completely sure" that he's healthy and able to continue his comeback.

**BASEBALL** To Johnny Damon, the Detroit Tigers were the right team. "This is where I wanted to be," he said vesterday after completing the signing of his \$8-million US, oneyear contract. "I love it here."

SOCCER Ronaldo says he will retire after the 2011 season. The 33-year-old Brazilian striker extended his contract with Corinthians yesterday, and plans to play two more seasons before putting an end to a career of more than 17 years. NHL Toronto Maple Leafs general manager Brian Burke says an alleged altercation involving injured forward Mikhail Grabovski appears to be minor. TSN reported that Grabovski was taken into custody Friday night following an altercation in a Vancouver bar.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Jays try out dozens of pitchers

# Team still considering candidates to make up starting rotation

Toronto Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston surveyed the field yesterday, as Blue Jays pitchers and catchers . began their first official

"We've got so many pitchers here we need names on their back," he

There are 37 of them. including 10 non-roster players invited to training camp and two on the disabled list.

"It's going to take a while to get to know them," Gaston said.

But the impact player may be the one who isn't here: Roy Halladay.

Toronto's former was traded to Philadelphia after last season for three minor leaguers catcher Travis d'Arnaud, first baseman Brett Waland pitcher Kyle Drabek, son of 13-year veteran pitcher and 1990 National League Cy Young Award winner Doug Drabek. None is expected to make the Blue Jays' roster this season.

The principal candidates for the No. 1 spot in the rotation are left-han-

Toronto Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston, centre, watches pitchers throw off the mound as pitchers and catchers work out at the Blue Jays' spring training baseball facility in Dunedin, Fla.

der Ricky Romero, 13-9 as a rookie last year, and right-hander Shaun Marcum, 24-17 in four seabefore sitting out 2009 following shoulder

"Who's my No. 1? Who's my No. 2?" Gaston "You talk about two said. guys. We hope their arms are OK but you don't



"It's nice to have him back," Hank Aaron says of Mark McGwire after the slugger's admission to steroid use. Scan this code for the story.

know until they start pitching in competition."

One benefit, so to speak, of Halladay's departure is added flexibili-

ty with the starters.
"We don't have Doc anymore," Gaston said. "We had to keep him on his rotation (starting every fifth day). That's the way Doc wanted it.

You don't really have to do it with these guys. So guys won't pitch as many innings. We'll just bag 'em up and keep going. If it's Ricky's turn to pitch and Marcum's pitching better, then we'll start Marcum.

Gaston said Brian Tallet and Brandon Morrow deserve a shot at a spot in the rotation. Each split last season as a starter and reliever.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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# England now has no trouble finding golfers to carry the flag

**GOLF** Ten years ago this week, England had only two golfers among the top 100 in the world.

It doesn't take long to find them now.

Lee Westwood, who won the European Tour money title a year ago, remained at No. 4 in the world, Ian Poulter moved up to No. 5 in the ranking published yester-day because of his Match Play Championship victory over Paul Casey, who is No.

And they have plenty of company right behind them.

"I just think that there's been a lot of great talent in England for such a long

time," Poulter said. "And it's so nice to see guys actually deliver on the golf course. We've been waiting for a long time."

Consider the inaugural Match Play Championship at La Costa Resort a dozen years ago. The only Englishmen in the 64-man field were Westwood and Nick

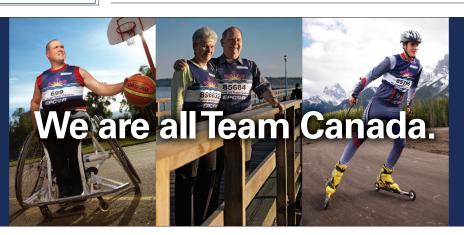
Faldo, and neither lasted more than a day - Westwood because he never gets beyond the second round, Faldo because he was the No. 64 seed and played Tiger Woods.

England started with nine players at Dove Mountain and kept the flag flying all week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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**SPECIAL FOCUS ON:** 

Sexual Health and Relationships

# Health & Beauty

# Long distance makes the heart grow fonder

Or does it? Exploring technology's role in relationships that span oceans and continents



# Maintaining a relationship when geography keeps you apart is-

Technology has certainly helped to bridge the gap. But while things like web cams and Skype, texting and email can literally keep you connected when school, work or even war separate you for long periods of time, these new technologies don't always make long-distance relationships easier.

In fact, sometimes they can even make things worse.

'One of the problems with email when you're in long-distance relationships is that you can't express tone and it's easy to misread things," explains 32-year-old Lisa, who's boyfriend of two years is in Australia for a year for work.

"Emoticons help a bit, but there are limitations. Once in a while we deal with bigger emotional stuff by email, but we try to avoid it," she continues.

"It can be tempting to write things in email you wouldn't say to each other in person and, once it's in writing and you hit send, you can't take it back.'

Texting can be great because you can send each other quick "hits" throughout the day just to let the other person know vou're thinking about them. But, because technology has trained us to expect con-



don't get a returned text immediately, it's hard not to fill the empty space with doubt about why you haven't heard back.

In some cases, communicating more often can even push long-distance couples

Gregory Guldner is the director of the Center for the Study of Long Distance Relationships in the U.S. He also spent four months as an emergency physician in Iraq.

In an article in Forbes magazine, he says that, in the military, for instance, tools like satellite phones

"When a soldier is pinned down in combat and his wife is at home trying to deal with a broken dishwasher, they can't really relate to one another."

Gregory Guldner, director of the Center for the Study of Long Distance Relationships

have broken down some barriers that would have better been left standing. "Technological commu-

nication can interfere with the separate worlds that people are trying to maintain," Guldner is quoted saying.

"When a soldier is pinned down in combat and his wife is at home trying to deal with a broken dishwasher, they can't really relate to one another.'

And communication technology can only take that long-distance feel-

Lisa and her boyfriend

have regular video conferencing "dates."

But, says Lisa, "While it can be fun to watch a movie together on a Saturday night while we're both on web cam, sometimes,

the experience just makes me miss being physically together even more.

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

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14

# Food

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Personal Gourmet recipe of the month

ROSE REISMAN

# **Heart healthy** recipes



Smoked Salmon Sushi Squares.

### It seems salt is the new trans fat.

Experts are warning us that high intake of salt may lead to high blood pressure, heart attack or stroke. Although salt, is a mineral that is essential for our health, we consume this often hidden flavouring in excess.

Nearly 80 per cent of the salt in North American di-ets comes from processed and packaged food. Another 10 per cent of our salt intake is the salt that occurs naturally in foods. This means that you only control 10 per cent with the saltshaker.

In the spirit of "Heart Month" try some of my de-licious lower sodium recipes.

## **Smoked Salmon Sushi** Sauares

PREP TIME: 15 MINUTES COOK TIME: 12 MINUTES

My corporate clients vote this their favorite appetizer. It's the perfect solution for those who shy away from sushi because of concern about eating raw fish. Nori is available in good quality supermarkets and Asian food shops.

SERVES 16

### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 2 cups sushi rice
- 2 cups water
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar 1 Tbsp granulated sugar
- 16 thin slices English
- cucumber (unpeeled)
- 4 oz smoked salmon
- 1 Tbsp light mayonnaise 1/2 tsp wasabi (Japanese horseradish)
- 1 sheet nori (dried seaweed)
- 1 tsp sesame seeds, toasted
- Low-sodium soy sauce, wasabi and pickled ginger (optional)

## **METHOD:**

1. Combine the rice and water in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and boil for one minute. Reduce the heat to low, cover and cook for 12 minutes. Remove from the heat and let stand, covered, for 10 minutes.

2. While the rice cooks, combine the vinegar and sugar in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring to



Rose Reisman is an author, media personality, nutritionist, and the inspira-tion behind a fresh food delivery service, Personal Gourmet, and new website, The Art of Living Well. Visit Rose at rosereisman.com & personalgourmet.ca

dissolve the sugar. Remove from the heat.

3. Turn the rice out into a large bowl. Stir in the vinegar and sugar mixture. Cool just until the rice no longer feels hot. Don't let the rice get cold or it will dry out.

4. Line an 8-inch square baking dish with plastic wrap. Cover the bottom with the cucumber slices. Lay the smoked salmon over top Mix the mayonnaise and wasabi together and spread over salmon.

5. Place half of the rice over the mayonnaise. Pat it firmly to an even thickness, dipping your fingers in water to prevent the rice from sticking to your hands. Top with the nori. Add the remaining rice, patting it firmly to an even thickness.

6. Invert onto a serving platter and cut into 16 pieces. Sprinkle with the sesame seeds. Serve immediately, or cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to eight hours. Serve at room temperature, gar-nished with soy sauce, wasabi and pickled ginger,

## **Make Ahead**

• Prepare early in the day, cover and refrigerate. If you iust want to cook and season the rice earlier in the day, cool before placing in a large plastic bag so it doesn't dry out.



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A Padma Lakshmi is now the happy mother of a daughter. "Model, author and Emmy-nominated host of Top Chef Padma Lakshmi gave birth to a baby girl named Krishna Thea Lakshmi on Saturday," her rep said. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Entertainment

Off the market?

# Olympics play it safe Conan weighs live tour

I Believe does not reflect diverse Canadian music scene

# **The Audio** Files **Bryan Borzykowski** metronews.ca/music

hree days before the Olympics began I had already lost count of how many times heard I Believe.

The song, sung by 16year-old Montreal phenom Nikki Yanofsky, must have been on three or four times a night, so you can understand, after 11 days of speed skating, hockey and skiing, just how deeply lodged that track (and its equally epic variations) is in my head.

We can debate whether or not the song is any good, but by now that's irrelevant would anyone be that upset if a day went by without hearing the tune? I Believe was chosen by CTV to inspire patriotic feelings among us Canucks, but for many it's become a second anthem, one that's supposed to represent Canadian ideals and, perhaps, our taste in music.

We pride ourselves on being a multi-cultural society, and that extends to music we've embraced rockers, jazz bands, opera singers, aboriginal artists and country music - so choosing an over-the-top adult contemporary track as the defining Olympic song leaves out a lot of great, Canadian sounds.

If the network had to pick a single genre to focus on, though, it's not a surprise that they'd pick a song that sounds a lot like



Nikki Yanofsky's I Believe was chosen to inspire patriotic feelings and has topped Canadan charts.

# "Choosing an over-the-top adult contemporary track as the defining Olympic song leaves out a lot of great, Canadian sounds."

Celine Dion. One of the songwriters, Stephan Moccio, has written for the French-Canadian songstress (Glass Tiger's singer Alan Frew was the other writer), and the track's epic chorus and slick, mid-tempo verses follow a similar arch to Dion's huge 1996 hit Because You Loved Me.

It may be a popular number — the single topped the Canadian iTunes and Billboard Canadian Hot 100 charts, so clearly lots of people like it — but it was-n't necessarily the most representative piece of music, unless we think of ourselves as snoozy, inoffensive and middle-of-the-road.

There's no right choice here - no song would satisfy everyone, and with so many genres to choose from, recording We Are The World-style ensemble with George Pettit, John K. Samson, Randy Bachman and Shania Twain could have been a disaster, but the songwriters at least could have tried to spruce the tune up with some-thing other than a children's choir.

Having a mix of the coun-

try's more established and underground artists write their own Olympic songs would have been better, or at the very least, this one tune could have been recorded in myriad ways. (as folk tune done by East Coaster Joel Plaskett, a country song by Aboriginal singer Shane Yellowbird, a soft indie number by Jenn Grant.) In the end the song is so safe and devoid of any real Canadian culture that it not only pales in comparison to our other big hits, but we won't recall it a year from now. And that's too bad, because we've got a lot of great music worth remembering.

Bryan Borzykowski is a business and entertainment writer. Follow Metro Music on Twitter @TheMetroMusic

Former late-night TV host Conan O'Brien may be taking his act on the road and even overseas.

O'Brien's exit deal with NBC barred the former Tonight host from TV apseveral pearances for months. He is weighing a tour that would take him directly to his fans, according to a person familiar with the proposal.

The person, who was not authorized to publicly discuss the plans, spoke on condition of anonymi-

Details are unsettled, the person said, but O'Brien may perform live in U.S. venues, including college campuses, and head to Europe. An O'Brien spokesman declined comment.



Conan O'Brien

The tour could be a prelude to a new talk show for the comedian, who left Tonight in January when NBC tried to bump him to a midnight slot. Possibilities include Fox, which expressed interest.

Jay Leno reclaims Tonight next month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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**16** entertainment



Jolie spends time with dad

Angelina Jolie and her father Jon Voight have been famously estranged for years, but photographers caught Voight enjoying a sunny day in Venice, Italy, this weekend with his daughter, Brad Pitt and a few of the grandkids.



# Buy one coffee, get a second cup on us.

Valid only at participating Second Cup locations from February 23 to February 26, 2010. Buy a medium size brewed coffee and receive a medium size brewed coffee for Free. Offer is limited to one Free medium size brewed coffee with purchase per voucher. Voucher has no cash value and is not valid with any other offer. Frinted or photocopied coupons not valid.



Roman Polanski, left, shares a moment with actor Ewan McGre-

# The curious case of promoting Polanski

FILM To say the least, it can be difficult releasing a film when your star director is confined to his Swiss chalet awaiting possible extradition to the U.S. for a sex crime committed in the 1970s.

That's the unique situation for Roman Polanski's Ghost Writer, The which opens in Canada next What The Ghost month. began as a typi-Writer cal production Polanski opens upended March 19 when he was ar-rested in Switzerland last September

year-old rape case. Suddenly, Polanski's past returned to the front pages. "It's sad for all concerned, but it's also heightened the movie," said Pierce Brosnan, who stars in it. "The movie's in the can, he's in the can."

in connection with a 32-

The 76-year-old, Oscarwinning filmmaker fled the U.S. in 1978 after pleading guilty to unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor. He is currently under house arrest at his Gstaad chalet, where he's awaiting a Swiss decision on whether to extradite him to the U.S.

The arrest interrupted Polanski as he was finishing post-production on The Ghost Writer. Though he had wrapped principal photography in February and completed a rough cut in August, he had to finish editing the film while

in prison before being granted house arrest.

Relaying materials through his lawyers, Polanski edited some of the movie alongside fellow prisoners peel-

Executives for Summit Entertainment, which is releasing the film in the U.S., are staying mum — as are publicists and agents associated with the movie.

The theatrical trailer for The Ghost Writer hardly mentions Polanski's name, something that might normally be expected for the auteur director of Chinatown and Rosemary's Baby.

The strategy is clear: emphasize the movie and downplay Polanski.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Past haunts Idol hopeful

# Contestant's failed musical causes stir

The success of an American Idol contestant is causing a stir among parents who are complaining they never got refunds for performance fees in a failed musical production Todrick Hall wrote and directed.

Hall, who last Tuesday made it into the top 24 on American Idol, wrote Oz, The Musical, which he billed on its Facebook page

as "a contemporary twist on the classic story, with all new music."

He had been putting on small productions of the show since he was 17, using local, nonprofessional actors for the lead roles and casting local children as munchkins and flying monkeys.

"They were fabulous, just wonderful productions, and the kids just really loved them," said Dallas businessman Greg Money, who had three daughters in the shows.

Then in August 2008, Money agreed to finance a production of Oz in Lubbock, Tex., that used a professional cast for the lead roles. That led to a small tour of Texas cities in early 2009 Money says was a "financial disaster."

Reached by phone Friday,



Todrick Hall

Hall said American Idol rules do not allow him to participate in any media interviews, however, he did generally confirm Money's account of events. Hall is scheduled to perform Wednesday on Idol with the top 12 male semifinalists.

Plans moved ahead to take the show on a national tour and Money said he tried to line up new backers. Several commitments fell through, however, and the show ended abruptly.

Meanwhile, in several cities, auditions had already been held and children were looking forward to performing on stage in a real musical. Many parents had paid a \$50 performance fee that was never returned.

In Lakeland, Fla., Jennifer Davis, who owns the Art in Motion Academy of Dance, said she was not even informed the show had been cancelled. She found out when she opened the studio for a planned rehearsal and no one from Oz showed up.

"I don't believe (Hall) came to my studio knowing that the musical was going to go down and they would steal everyone's money, but it happened," she said. "He could have at least called — explained what was going on."

Money said he was responsible for the finances of the production, not Hall. He said Hall tried to make amends to the disappointed children by putting together a smaller, less expensive show, but even that lost money. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# If you treat your dad to a better cup of coffee are you still grounded? Use the coupon above to find out.

# DVD **picks**

# The Damned United

**Directors: Tom Hooper** 

MOST SPORTS MOVIES follow the all-too-predictable pattern of tracking an unlucky club as it struggles to find its heart and win a championship.

The Damned United, written by Peter Morgan with the same keen insights he brought to Michael Sheen's previous triumphs, The Queen and

Frost/Nixon, goes the other way.

It's all the better for it. Sheen is Brian Clough, who was briefly the coach of the Leeds United soccer team, in an incident from the 1970s that is almost Shakespearian in its hubris.

Just 44 days after he took the helm, the Leeds board removed Clough. He'd managed to alienate management, players and fans in record time with

his outrageous insults, bull-lying, boasting and lyendeltas.

boasting and vendettas, which became the stuff of worldwide head-

lines.
Director Tom Hooper wastes little time on the pitch, making judicious use of archival footage and some recreated action

in a film otherwise rich with period detail and colour.

Sheen's performance is controlled fury, barely touching ground as he presents Clough as being the very picture of a delusional fool.

Extras includes a commentary by Hooper, Sheen and producer Andy Harries, deleted scenes (with optional director's commentary), and several featurettes.

# The Informant!

**Directors: Steven Soderbergh** 

ASTUTE FOLLOWERS of Steven Soderbergh's contrarian ways learn to be wary of the director's zanier instincts.

So word that his new film The Informant! is a whistleblower drama that plays like cracked satire should be cause for at least one raised eyebrow.

Here's the good news: his instincts are spot on this time. In adapting reporter Kurt Eichenwald's non-fiction account of Mark E. Whitacre, the corporate corn husker turned federal snitch, Soderbergh has given this incredible story exactly the amount of insanity it deserves.

Matt Damon added 30 pounds, bad hair and an Alfred E. Neuman smile to play Whitacre, and he got it exactly right, too.

Peter Howell/for Metro Canada

# No Hiccups in casting

Corner Gas alumni team up again for new series

IAN JOHNSTON for Metro Canada

Corner Gas alum Nancy Robertson admits she was a little hesitant when husband/co-star Brent Butt offered her the lead in his new series Hiccups.

"I was just worried people might get the impression that I only work with Brent. Which isn't true," says Robertson, who plays a volatile children book writer in the CTV comedy.

"But the part was so great. She's so free. So open. It's real fun to play."

Created by Butt, Hiccups focuses on Millie Upton, the writer of Grumpaloos, a hugely successful series of children's books.

Millie's problem is she tends to speak her mind. And when she gets ticked off, she gets really ticked off. So much so, her agent and publisher convince her to go into therapy to curb her outbursts.

The Gemini-winning Robertson, who married Butt in 2005 while making Corner Gas, is hesitant to



Nancy Robertson stars in the new CTV comedy Hiccups.

call Millie "angry", though the character does tend to meltdown in coffee shops and book stores

"I wouldn't say she has anger issues. More like emotional issues. She's extreme. When she's happy, she's really happy. But she's totally content with who she is. She's just an author who doesn't know how to work with people."

So, in the series pre-

miere, Millie seeks the help of a down-and-out "life coach" Stan — played by Butt. Their odd couple teaming forms the center of Hiccups. "She personally doesn't think she needs a life coach. It's more for the other people in her life. They can't handle being around her."

Hiccups premieres the night of Monday, March 1, on CTV.



Return airfare for two to Toronto courtesy of WestJet Spend two nights at the Delta Chelsea, Toronto's Entertainment Hotel Some restrictions apply. Please see full contest rules for details.

# Visit **clubmetro.com** and enter for your chance to WIN!

To register and for full contest details visit clubmetro.com

# Usual suspects aet nods for WGC

writing Less Than Kind, Corner Gas and Flashpoint are among the finalists for the 2010 Writers Guild of Canada Screenwriting Awards.

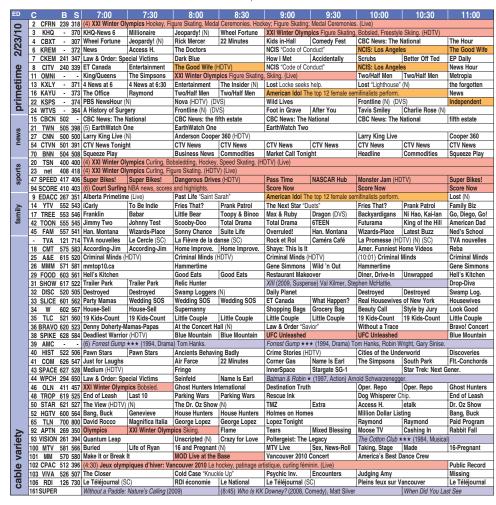
Four instalments of the Winnipeg-shot sitcom Less Than Kind made the cut in the episodic half-hour category. Corner Gas was the other nominee.

Brent Butt and Corner Gas have been repeat winners in the past. The finalists were chosen from 148 scripts.

The winners will be announced April 19 in Toronto.







# critics'corner\_

Elizabeth, a widowed motorcycle mama, has been in a relationship for four years, but she and her boyfriend are lacking that special spark. It doesn't take host Bruce Turner, wardrobe consultant David Clemmer and the rest of the team long to figure out why: She has lost touch with her feminine side, favoring men's clothes and eschewing anything girly in the new episode "No Spark No Flame." 10:30 PM on W



# American Idol

On this season's first night of viewer voting, the top 12 female semifinalists take to the stage hoping to earn another week in the competition as they perform live for judges Simon Cowell, Ellen DeGeneres, Randy Jackson and Kara DioGuardi, as well as fans at home. 9 PM on KAYU EDACCESS

### NCIS: Los Angeles

While Hetty is at a Senate hearing in Washington, D.C., an investigation into the death of a Marine lance corporal leads Callen and Sam and the rest of the team to stolen anti-tank missiles and a dangerous militia group in "Ambush." P10 PM on KREM CITV

# **18** entertainment



It's over between actress Abbie Cornish and boyfriend Ryan Phillippe, her spokesperson confirms to people.com. "Abbie ended the relationship with Ryan and she moved out of their home," she said. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# **Celebrity Buzz**

# etalk's Lainey Lui dishes out celeb dirt in three's



AMY WINEHOUSE. One of the most exciting talents to emerge from the UK in years, Amy Winehouse's musical genius is often overshadowed by her personal drama. Now divorced and reportedly clean after having spent the better part of a vear in St Lucia, Winehouse is back in London working on new material which. hopefully, will give us something new to talk about. Here are three things you might not know about Amy Winehouse:

ONE She learned to play drums for her highly anticipated third album due for release this year.

TWO Winehouse's personal fortune dropped from £10 million to £5 million between 2008 and 2009 as her parents managed her money while she battled ad-

THREE Winehouse's new addictions are apparently plastic surgery and exercise. Her father told the British papers that she loves her breast en-



Lainey Lui is a reporter for etalk and runs the popular gossip site, LaineyGossip.com.
As part of CTV's Olympic Broadcast Team,
Lainey is on the ground in Whistler reporting
on entertainment news from the Vancouver 2010
Olympic Winter Games.

'When

# Cowell: Engaged or not?

SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT CATCH Simon Cowell's rep, Max Clifford, tells People magazine he cannot confirm reports that the American Idol judge is engaged to makeup artist Mezhgan Hussainy. But don't be surprised if Cowell pops the question before too long.

"I see it being repeated everywhere," Clifford says. But when I asked him last Wednesday, when he and Mezhgan were about to fly

you engaged?' His answer was, 'Max, I'm not engaged.' That was last Wednesday.

Cowell's mother also denied the American Idol judge was engaged. But Clifford, who is getting married himself in a few weeks, says he wouldn't be surprised Cowell followed him down

dreams. said,

cording

week-

end

sooner rather than "I said to him,

'So, there's going to be two weddings this year?'" Clif-ford says. "Nor-mally he would say...'In your wildest But www. knows?"

> METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Rihanna gets a surprise at 22nd birthday party

MAKES Rihanna's rumoured boyfriend surprised her with a 22nd birthday party on the weekend, femalefirst.co.uk ports.

The singer was "shocked" by the bash put together by baseball player Matt Kemp Phoenix.

currently training she was only expecting a small gathering of friends. The party was extra-special for Rihanna as she cancelled her 21st birthday par-

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

Celeb**Tweets** 

Phillippe single again

tv in the aftermath of her assault at the hands of Chris Brown early in February 2009. METRO NEWS

SERVICES

# **Duff shows off ring**

the aisle

AND COMRIE SHOWS OFF HIS MyJewelryBox.com, FUTURE TROPHY WIFE On Friusmagazine.com the ring day, Hilary Duff showed off her huge engage-Asscher-cut ment ring from hockey player Mike Comprice? \$300,000. rie as she continued vacationing in Hawaii, where the singer, 22, recently in began got engaged, us-Mercedes-Benz magazine.com reports. Celeb jeweler David Ma-SERVmane, CEO of

appears to be a 4.5-carat engagement ring. Estimated Shortly after they began dating in 2007, Comrie surprised Duff with a G-class SUV. METRO NEWS

# Lohan admits to hard drug use

my father was going pub-STILL BLUE Lindsay Lohan admits she's used drugs lic, that's when I hit rock bottom," Lohan tells the in the past to deal newspaper. "I tried to with personal probmask my problems lems, and when her with alcohol, cocaine father, Michael Loand mind-altering han, started talksubstances. Now ing to the press I'm in a place about her iswhere I don't sues, it only need to use made matters anything and I worse, she refeel emotions portedly because choose to." tells the Sun.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# **Charlize Theron embracing** Kabbalah after bad break up

WATCH OUT SCIENTOLOGY the Daily Mail. KABBALAH IS GIVING YOU A thickest red bracelet, which helps ward off bad will," a source **RUN FOR YOUR CELEBRITY** After split-MONEY ting with longtime boyfriend Stuart Charl-Townsend, ize Theron has reportedly turned Kabbalah, attending classes to study the faith in L.A. and sporting the trademark red string bracelet, ac-

TAYLOR SWIFT is 'Charlize is wearing the being productive with her iet lag, WILLIAI SHATNER is focused . says. "Kabbalah is on his goals, and SAMANTHA not just a religious RONSON is getting professional help. interest for her. She also views it @WilliamShatner Riding as a means to again tomorrow morning. more of a social Have to stay in top shape to life and win the Pacific Coast Year mixing End Horse of the Year again with Holthis year. lywood." samantharonson headed to METRO therapy- 1st thing on the WORLD agenda- why the hell am i

sitting here with tears in my eyes watching american idol? @taylorswift13 I've been waking up at 5am every

# morning since we got back from Japan. Early morning activity today uploadina pics for a photo blog

# Tiger back in rehab clinic

AW SHUCKS, LET'S FORGET with wife Elin Nordegren, EVERYTHING AND LOVE according to Radar On-TIGER AGAIN... After line. But Nordegren his public apology may not be by his side week for his the entire time. "Elin marital indiscremay not stay the entire week with him," a source tells the Web site. "She taking the tions, Tiger Woods is back in rehab, having traveled to a facility in Arimarriage one day over at a time.' zona the METRO WORLD

NEWS



Take Five









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# Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone - one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		9					8	7
	6	5		3	8			
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4		1	2		6			
	9						5	
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6	4					3		

1 There's a lot of this .. 5 ... in this gin fizz 12 Sandwich cookie 13 Crony 14 Full house. e.g. 15 Wrenches 17 Memorization

method 18 Got a look at 19 Prayer 21 Parsley piece 24 Algerian port 25 Baseball's

Hershiser 26 Controversial punishment 30 Newhart or Hope

31 "Million Dollar Baby" star 32 Life story, for short 33 Droopy-eared dogs

35 Heart of the matter 36 Historic times

On the web

JUST WAITING TO BUST OUT

THE MRI SHOWED YOU HAVE A COUNTRY SONG INSIDE YOU

37 Sound portion 38 Cup holder 41 Possess

42 A deadly sin 43 All aglitter

Neighborhood 49 Annoy 50 Loathe 51 Catherine

who wed Henry VIII 52 Ph. bk. info

53 Elliptical

1 "Mayday!" 2 Dadaist Jean 3 Meadow 4 Adenoid neigh bor

5 let forth 6 Corn spike 7 Losers

8 Get smaller 9 Asian nation 10 Aware of 11 First place?

16 Run-down horse 20 File crosser 21 Weeps loudly

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

22 Item on stage 23 Singer McEntire

24 October birthstones

26 Administers an oath of office

27 Footnote abbr.

28 Unless (Lat.) 29 Head for 31 Paddock pop

34 Beverage of the gods

35 Overly enthusiastic 37 Plant bristle

38 High-five, e.g. 39 Emanation

40 Addict 41 Erstwhile acorns

44 In favor of 45 Restroom, for short

46 Greek vowel 47 Benicio —

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**Metro Recipe of the Day** 

# **Jamaican Shrimp** and Crab Jambalaya

### INGREDIENTS

1 tbsp canola oil 2 tbsp all-purpose flour 2 medium onions, chopped

1 large green pepper, chopped

1 celery rib, chopped 3 oz bacon, diced 796 ml can chopped toma-

toes in purée 284 ml can chicken broth 1 1/2 cups long-grain

white rice 2 tsp Old Bay seasoning 450 g large shrimp, peeled

and deveined 225 g lump crabmeat, picked through 2 tbsp chopped fresh

### MEHTOD

1. Lightly coat large skillet with nonstick cooking spray; set over medium

heat. Add oil and flour and stir constantly until roux turns deep brown, 5 minutes. Add onions, green pepper, celery and bacon; sauté until vegetables are soft, 5 minutes.

2. Stir in tomatoes, broth, rice and Old Bay seasoning; bring to boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until rice is almost tender, 20 minutes. Fold in shrimp and cook until shrimp are pink and firm, 5 minutes. 3. Fold in crab; cover and cook 1 minute. Remove from heat and let stand 3 minutes. Sprinkle with cilantro.

### rd.ca

For nutritional infor mation on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out Key Ingredients



# Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

### For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

### ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Give people you meet and mix with today all the praise they can handle. They may not deserve a word of it though.

### LIBRA SEPT 23-OCT 23

Only you know how hard you worked to reach a certain level, so only you can decide whether or not it is worth car-

### **TAURUS**

If you don't feel quite right in the company of certain people today you must not be afraid to turn your back and walk away.

### **SCORPIO** OCT 24-NOV 22

Something of a creative or artistic nature has the potential to make you a star, and rich with it, but it won't just happen as if by magic.

# **GEMINI**

MAY 22-JUNE 21 Today's Sun-Pluto link cuts across the career and financial angles of your chart, so chances are you will enjoy some sort of windfall.

# **SAGITTARIUS**

NOV 23-DEC 21
Family and financial matters are under excellent stars today and if you follow your instincts you won't go far wrong.

### CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 22

Age and experience may be good things to have but energy and enthusiasm are more important in what you put into your doings

over the next 24 hours

### CAPRICORN **DEC 22-JAN 20**

You are on such dazzling form at the moment that you will get what you desire one way or another.

### LEO JULY 23-AUG 23

If you need to attempt some-thing difficult or detailed, now is the ideal time to give it a go. Pluto in the work area of your chart is energized by the Sun

### **AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 18**

Put yourself out for other people today, no matter how much it might cost in time, energy or

### VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22

If someone suggests that you might like to lower your sights a little today you should suggest right back at them that they might like to raise their own.

# **PISCES**

FEB 19-MARCH 20
Everything evens itself out in the end, so if you feel you have gained something you don't deserve it can only be because you did something good.

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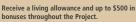
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